

30 per minute. The brightest leave phosphorescent trains visible for more than 1<sup>s</sup> after the meteor had disappeared.

8<sup>h</sup> 38<sup>m</sup>. Several bright meteors in South about the magnitude of *Capella* and cutting near square of *Pegasus*. Observed in break of clouds.

9<sup>h</sup> 30<sup>m</sup>. Partly clear in South. Meteors still falling fairly fast.

The tracks given above when referred to the stars are accurate, but the remainder are only approximate. From the former it is inferred that the radiant-point is situated about

R.A. 1<sup>h</sup> 30<sup>m</sup> and N.P.D. 48°,

or very near 50 *Andromedæ*.

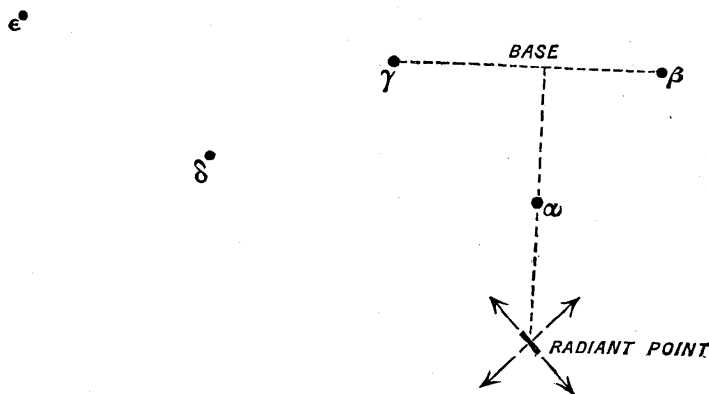
Radcliffe Observatory, Oxford:  
1885, December 15.

*Display of Meteors, 1885, November 27.* By W. Wickham.

(Communicated by E. J. Stone, M.A., F.R.S.)

On the evening of Friday, November 27, I was walking between Islip and Charlton, two villages six to nine miles N.N.E. of Oxford. The night was very dark and cloudy, but at 5.35 P.M. (nearly) I noticed repeated bursts of light behind the clouds.

The sky began to clear in patches, and once, about 6.15 P.M., was almost free from cloud. Having no light with me I could neither record time nor track beyond making the following mental notes:—I remarked that the thickest display occurred about *Cassiopeia*, and it soon became evident that the radiant-point was somewhere S. beyond the five bright stars of *Cassiopeia*. Further examination led me to fix the radiant-point at a distance south beyond  $\alpha$  *Cassiopeia*, equal to a perpendicular let fall from  $\alpha$  *Cassiopeia* upon a base drawn between  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  *Cassiopeia* (and near  $\nu$  *Cassiopeia*), as shown in the following sketch:—



Most of the time I was facing N.N.E., but turning due south I noticed the general direction of the meteor-paths to be in a

line drawn between  $\alpha$  *Andromedæ* and  $\alpha$  *Pegasi*. During the clear interval, about 6.15 P.M., I saw thousands of meteors, and counted six falling simultaneously through the N.N.W. The meteors seemed generally of the same magnitude (about 1st star mag.), but I noticed many smaller when the sky was clear for a few minutes. At 6.15 P.M. (about) there were two bright meteors, about the size of *Jupiter*, one on the N.W., the other on the S.W. horizon, both of which exhibited a decided green colour.

All the paths and durations seemed unusually short, the former comprising a luminous track and then a bright burst. With the exception of one hour (from 6.30 to 7.30), I kept watch till 11 P.M., but clouds generally prevailed, although I could see frequent bursts behind them.

*Radcliffe Observatory, Oxford:*  
1885, December 15.

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*The Meteor Shower of 1885, November 27.* By Major A. C. Bigg  
Wither.

A grand display of meteors was seen at Quetta, Beluchistan ( $67^{\circ} 5' \text{ E.}, 30^{\circ} 12' \text{ N.}$ ), on November 27, 1885. At 10 P.M., local time, the shower was incessant, and I estimated that over the whole visible hemisphere six or eight meteors in every second were falling at this time. The radiant-point was about half way between the three principal stars in *Aries* and *Cassiopeia*, in *Andromeda*, close to the well-known nebula; and as this part of the heavens was nearly in the zenith at this time, the meteor shower had, so to speak, a most symmetrical appearance. The meteors were mostly not very brilliant—on an average like stars of the 3rd magnitude, moving over arcs of  $8^{\circ}$  or  $10^{\circ}$ ; but there were some brighter even than stars of the 1st magnitude. Unfortunately circumstances did not permit me to observe for more than a few minutes, and it was only by accident that I saw the shower at all.

*Quetta, 1885, November 29.*

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*The Meteor Shower of 1885, November 27.* By Major G. Strahan.

I have been fortunate enough to witness here, on the night of the 27th inst., a most superb display of meteors, and as it is possible they were not visible in England, a short account of them may be of interest to the Society. I first noticed them on leaving my house at about 7.20 P.M., local time, and at that time the shower was most fully established (longitude of Agra is about  $5^{\text{h}} 10^{\text{m}}$  E.). It was impossible to count them; there were often six or seven visible at once, and there were rarely